Magruder Holdings, Inc.

Importers, Grocers and Wine Merchants

Since 1875

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Phone 301-230-3000



July 25, 2006

Docket Clerk Marketing Order Administration Branch Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS United States Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 0237 Washington, DC 20225-0237

Ref: Support of the rule change for UglyRipeTM Tomato

Dear Docket Clerk,

This letter is to express our desire to be able to have UglyRipeTM tomatoes available to our customers year-round.

Most tomatoes here in the winter time are not edible. However, we were introduced to the UglyRipe™ a few years ago and they have a very delightful taste. Now, why the shape of a tomato would make any difference for shipping out of the state of Florida, however, you run the commission, but my customers here would like a good tasting tomato any time of the year. Please allow the UglyRipeTM to be shipped year round out of Florida to enable us to receive this juicy tomato during the winter months instead of the hard, green, round no tasting tomato.

Thank you in advance for your consideration in making this juicy tomato a year-round reality.

Sincerely,

Stanford Steppa

President

Magruders Grocery Stores